

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11
SIG-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 HA-05 TRSE-00 /113 R

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APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN
AF/S:DPETTERSON
AF/C:RMARCUS

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O P 042246Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 114305

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA, GB

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SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: WESTERN FIVE APPROACH TO PRESIDENT OF
OAU

REF: USUN 1782

1. DEPARTMENT APPROVES TALKING POINTS PARA 3 REFTEL FOR
USE BY FRENCH AMBASSADOR WITH PRESIDENT BONGO. SHOULD

QUESTION ARISE AS TO US POSITION ON WALVIS BAY, EMBASSY
LIBREVILLE MAY INFORM GABONESE THAT OUR POSITION IS ESSEN-
Tially THE SAME AS THAT EXPRESSED BY FRENCH AMBASSADOR.

2. DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT DURING THE COURSE OF NAMIBIA
NEGOTIATIONS THE CONTACT GROUP HAS SHOWN APPROPRIATE
DEFERENCE FOR BONGO'S POSITION AS PRESIDENT OF OAU AND
HAS KEPT HIM INFORMED OF OUR POSITION. REFLECTING THE
VIEW THAT BONGO'S INFLUENCE WITH SWAPO IS DISTINCTLY
LIMITED, IT IS TRUE THAT WE HAVE NOT KEPT IN AS CLOSE
CONTACT WITH HIM AS WE HAVE WITH NIGERIANS AND FRONT LINE
STATES. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT BONGO WOULD BE
JUSTIFIED IN COMPLAINING THAT WE HAVE IGNORED HIS ROLE
AS FAR AS NAMIBIA NEGOTIATIONS ARE CONCERNED.

3. FOR USUN: WITH REFERENCE TO PROBLEM OF OBTAINING
CLEARANCE FROM CAPITALS FOR CONTACT GROUP'S STATEMENTS,
TALKING POINTS, ETC. WHICH WAS RAISED IN PARA 1B OF
USUN 1772, DEPARTMENT BELIEVES THAT PRACTICE FOLLOWED
TO DATE OF REFERRING STATEMENTS TO CAPITALS SHOULD BE
CONTINUED. IF OTHER CONTACT GROUP MEMBERS FEEL THEIR
COMMUNICATIONS FACILITIES ARE INADEQUATE FOR OBTAINING
RAPID CLEARANCES, THEY ARE OF COURSE FREE TO CHANGE
THEIR PROCEDURES, BUT WE BELIEVE THAT WE CAN RESPOND
RAPIDLY ENOUGH TO AVOID ANY UNNECESSARY DELAYS.

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CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

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